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TO: Jiping Lu
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

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Amendment

Serial No. 09/669,138

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of:

Applicant : Pollock et al.
Serial No. : 09/669,138
Filed : September 26, 2000
Title : Inlet Baffle for Water Heater
Docket : 006593-1868
Examiner : Lu, Jiping
Art Unit: 3749

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

DRAFT AMENDMENT

This amendment is being submitted in response to the Office action dated May 21, 2002. Reconsideration and review is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks presented below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel all of the unallowed pending claims in the application and enter new claim 17 as directed herein.

Remarks

In the Office action dated May 21, 2002 the Office rejected applicant's claims over the previously cited art. In a telephone conference with examiner Jiping Lu on August 13, 2002, the examiner indicated that the embodiment shown in drawing Fig. 8 included subject matter that would be allowable over the cited prior art. Applicant accordingly submits new claim 17 in accordance therewith.

Amendment

Serial No. 09/669,138

Support for New Claim

Support for the new claim added herein can at least be found in the claims, drawings and specification of the application as filed. More particularly, as can clearly be seen in drawing figure 8, support can be found as follows:

17. An inlet baffle for a water heating booster comprising:

a baffle assembly (20B) positioned over a water inlet (12), said baffle assembly comprising an inner cover (22B) positioned over said inlet having openings therein, an outer cap (24B) positioned over said inner cover and spaced apart therefrom by a spacer bracket (54), and wherein said outer cap includes a flange (34B) depending downwardly from said outer cap.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the applicant respectfully submits that new claim 17 is allowable over the prior art of record and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

DRAFT

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Mueller, Esq.
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Amendment

Serial No. 09/669,138

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Amendment

Serial No. 09/669,138

MARKE-D-UP AND CLEAN VERSION CLAIMS**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel pending claims 1-9, and 10-16.

Please add the following new claim 17.

17. An inlet baffle for a water heating booster comprising:
a baffle assembly positioned over a water inlet, said baffle assembly comprising an inner cap positioned over said inlet including an inner cover having openings therein, an outer cap positioned over said inner cover and spaced apart therefrom by a spacer bracket, and wherein said cap including a flange depending from said outer cap.